

Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees Minutes

January 26, 2026

The Williamsburg Township Board of Trustees met on Monday, January 26, 2026 to transact business. Mr. Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Guy Bainum, Charlie Maklem, and Gary Jordan answered the roll call. Also present were Fiscal Officer Doug Lefferson, Emergency Services Chief Jason McCarthy, Julia Carney, Megan Carney, and Ed Boll.

Mr. Bainum motioned to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2026 regular meeting. Mr. Maklem second. All yeas.

Mr. Maklem motioned to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2026 special meeting. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas.

Mr. Lefferson presented a financial report, including a comprehensive account of expenditures and receipts, an appropriation status report indicating year-to-date expenditures by account, and a revenue status report comparing budgeted revenue to actual received, and the Trustees accepted it.

Mr. Bainum motioned to approve the attached bills. Mr. Maklem second. All yeas.

Mr. Lefferson said of note in the financials was the receipt of the 4th quarter 2025 Joint Economic Development District (JEDD) distribution in the amount of \$141,749.55.

Public Participation

Mr. Jordan opened the meeting for public participation. He recognized Julia Carney from the Clermont County Prosecutor's Office. Ms. Carney said she was in attendance with her daughter Megan Carney. Ms. Carney said Megan is a senior in high school and is applying for the Ohio Township Association Scholarship. One of the requirements is attending a meeting of local township officials. Mr. Jordan welcomed them to the meeting. There was no further public participation.

Mr. Jordan said he was asked to speak about townships in general at an upcoming event with the Clermont County Chamber of Commerce and the Cincinnati Nature Center. He indicated the session would be in a Zoom Meeting or podcast type format which was a little different. Mr. Jordan said at this time he will decline the request.

Mr. Jordan indicated Maintenance Supervisor Brian Tatman was not in attendance at tonight's meeting due to all the additional hours put in this week on the snow storm. Therefore, there was no Zoning or Maintenance report. Mr. Jordan said he was proud of the work Mr. Tatman and Mr. Whaley did clearing the roads and that they had been on each Township road 5 or 6 times.

Mr. Jordan discussed the Ohio Department of Transportation annual Township Highway Mileage Certification. The Township is responsible for maintaining 17.791 miles of public roads. Mr. Maklem motioned to sign and approve the Ohio Department of Transportation annual Township Highway Mileage Certification. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas.

Mr. Jordan provided an update on the Township's 20-year land use plan. He indicated that he and Fiscal Officer Lefferson, and Zoning Administrator Tatman have had several meetings with Clermont Community + Economic Development. Eventually a draft document will be shared with the community after community input is received through participation in a survey that will be made available electronically and on paper. The survey will be made available to all residents, and select businesses, and potentially other key stakeholders. Mr. Jordan indicated he also envisions a public meeting to discuss the plan potentially at a larger venue such as the Williamsburg High School. Mr. Jordan said the Township wants to be transparent in regard to the land use plan.

Mr. Jordan said the Trustees have been watching issues that have been occurring in neighboring communities such as Batavia and Mt. Orab. One of those issues concerns data centers. Mr. Jordan said one recent study has shown that Ohio ranks fourth in the nation in the volume of data centers. Mr. Jordan introduced Resolution No. 2026-04 enacting a moratorium on data centers. Mr. Jordan said the Township wants to understand more of what data centers are about and develop any applicable zoning in an attempt to avoid a knee jerk reaction. He also mentioned understanding any concerns with the water shed.

Mr. Boll questioned the land plan and moratorium. Mr. Jordan said they are two separate items. He indicated the resolution on data centers is for a six-month moratorium so that Zoning Administrator Tatman and his team can work on. Mr. Jordan said the Township's current Land Use Plan is up, expired, so the Township is working with Clermont County Community + Economic Development to update the Plan with community input. Mr. Jordan said in an effort to be transparent, the Land Use Plan process has been talked about in several Township meetings. Mr. Boll expressed he felt the Township was trying to regulate land use along the 32 corridor. Mr. Jordan said the 20-year plan does not regulate and regulation is through zoning.

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Mr. Maklem said, in regard to data centers, we are just trying to get ahead of it and have not heard of anything approaching us. He continued saying the Trustees are trying to learn water usage, etc. and that the moratorium was only for six months. Mr. Maklem said in regard to the Land Use Plan he had not seen any draft yet and only knew what he has heard in the township meetings. He said there is a lot of interest in the 32 corridor. He indicated the CIC and County Commissioners blessed the Township with the South Afton Industrial Park and we just want to do any future development right. Mr. Maklem said he wants the land owners, residents, school districts, village, and township to all succeed. Mr. Jordan reintroduced Resolution No. 2026-04 enacting a six-month moratorium on the receipt, processing, issuance, or approval of any application for a zoning certificate for a data center. Mr. Jordan read from the resolution stating the State of Ohio, including Clermont County, has experienced a recent surge in land being used for data centers and related services; and a recent study has shown that Ohio ranks fourth in the nation in the volume of data centers; and data centers and related services consume vast amounts of land, electricity, and often water, depending upon their cooling technology, thereby creating a tremendous strain on public resources and infrastructure; and data centers may also have an adverse impact as a non-compatible surrounding land use, through conditions such as noise and other related development issues. The Trustees may rescind this moratorium at any time. The Trustees, staff, and legal counsel need time to review Zoning in order to address data centers. Mr. Jordan motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2026-04 to enact a six-month moratorium on the receipt, processing, issuance, or approval of any application for a zoning certificate for a data center. Mr. Bainum second. All yeas.

Emergency Services Report

Chief McCarthy provided a report. The department instructed Stop the Bleed and CPR for 34 students. The Chief said the 2006 Sutphen pumper had an antifreeze line break and was out of service for a few hours. Repairs were made on sight by Williamsburg Truck and Auto. Chief McCarthy said this vehicle will be heading to the shop soon for other repairs to the pump and motor as well. He indicated the gear extractor that is used to wash fire gear was not working and a service technician came out and found an issue with the power unit. Chief McCarthy said he and Maintenance Supervisor Brian Tatman had discussions on ID badges for Township employees. There are many good uses, one being if required to show ID during a Level 3 snow emergency. The Chief indicated a machine to create badges would cost around \$2,000 and they are continuing their research. Chief McCarthy indicated the department needed to add a 48 hour per week Firefighter/Advanced EMT job classification. He said he had discussed with Fiscal Officer Lefferson and had calculated an appropriate rate of \$20.00 per hour. Mr. Bainum motioned to add a 48 hour per week Firefighter/Advanced EMT job classification at \$20.00 per hour. Mr. Jordan second. All yeas. Mr. Bainum asked if badges would replace key fobs for building access. Chief McCarthy said they would have to look into that.

Mr. Jordan said the Township's 2-year contract extension with Rumpke ends this year. He indicated he has been having conversations with Hannah Lubbers, Adams-Clermont Solid Waste District regarding the contract. Mr. Jordan said the contract could possibly be extended 6 more months. Mr. Jordan asked Ms. Carney if Ms. Lubbers had spoken to her. Ms. Carney said she had not spoken with her. Republic recently filed a public records request for the current contract. Mr. Jordan said the Township could extend six months or put out for bid, but the current extension expires March 31, 2026 and that is a short window for competitive bid. There has been discussion about a potential consortium with other townships while maintaining individual contracts. The Township could join a potential consortium even with a six-month extension. Mr. Jordan indicated he would keep the other Trustees informed.

Mr. Jordan mentioned the Ohio Township Association Winter Conference February 5th and 6th in Columbus, Ohio.

Mr. Maklem asked about the Gunitite culvert work on Todds Run Foster Road. In Mr. Tatman's absence, Mr. Lefferson said work had commenced but he was not aware if it was complete. Mr. Maklem asked the status of finishing up the molding and threshold work at the Township Hall. Mr. Lefferson said he knew materials had been ordered and would be in this week and that Mr. Whaley would be working on shortly thereafter. Mr. Jordan asked if that included replacing the flooring in both restrooms. Mr. Lefferson said he was unaware of that. Mr. Jordan said he would follow up on the plan with Mr. Tatman.

Mr. Jordan said one beaver had been removed from the bridge area on Musgrove Road. He said Mr. Posey will create an invoice for removal and that will be the end of it unless we see more damage. Mr. Jordan said Mr. Tatman will remove the beaver dam but that bridges are controlled by the County and he will talk with Mr. Tatman so the next time we acknowledge that it is a County issue.

Mr. Maklem indicated he did visit the Clover and Concord Cemeteries as he said he would. In regard to the potential removal of the fence at the Clover Cemetery, he indicated he saw more issues at the Clover and Concord Cemeteries than the

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fence and he would like to see a more comprehensive approach. He would like to know what is the plan and expectations for these cemeteries rather than just remove fence. Mr. Maklem said he would reach out to Mr. Tatman. Mr. Bainum said he could appreciate that approach. Mr. Maklem said when campaigning he heard issues of weeds, tombstone problems, and how often the grass was cut. Mr. Bainum said he agreed we need to address any other issues. Mr. Maklem also indicated that fences at the cemeteries create a good visual boundary.

There being no further business, Mr. Bainum motioned to adjourn at approximately 8:00 p.m. Mr. Maklem second. All yeas.

Fiscal Officer

Chairperson